

No

Inaugural

(Dissertation  
on

Uterine Hemorrhage

Ed. Burd-

admitted March 11. 1817

11

*[Faint, illegible handwriting in a ledger format, possibly containing names and dates.]*

*[Faint handwriting visible on the right edge of the page, including fragments like "W", "m", "to", "p", "o", "p", "d", "T".]*

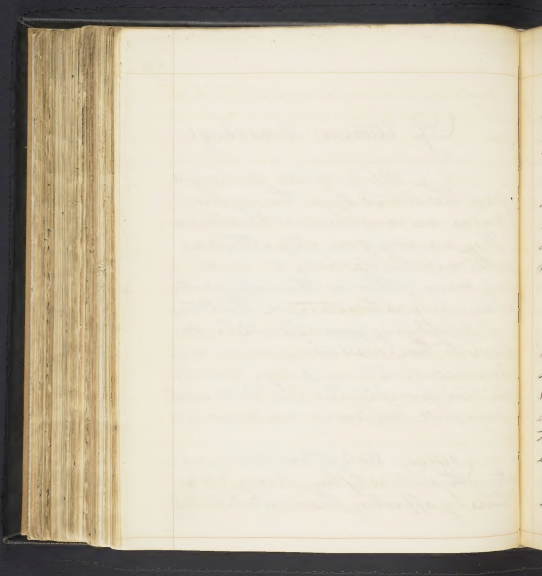
## Of Uterine Hemorrhage

All profuse discharges from the uterus says the ingenious Burns, are considered as Hemorrhages.

They are very generally attended with considerable dangers, and may occur either in the impregnated or unimpregnated state of the Uterus.

The following remarks will be confined to those cases alone which arise from accidents principally. Generally our most prompt attention and most powerfull medicines are demanded

(Causes. Violent exertions of strength such as lifting heavy bodies, these by affecting the circulation,



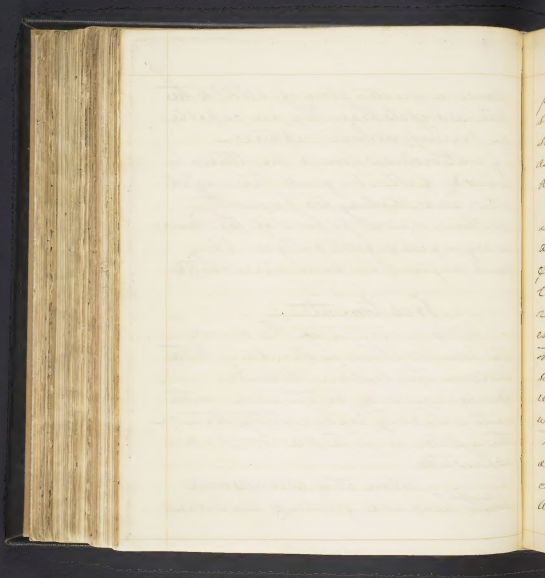
cause a greater flow of blood to the uterine vessels than they are capable of bearing without rupture—

Great violence done to the uterus by blows or falls—too great straining at stool, and stooping too frequently—  
 Plethora—violent passions of the mind as anger & fear & great fatigues—being much confined in warm apartments &c.

### Treatment—

In the treatment of this disease we should attend particularly to the state of the system. Uterine Hemorrhage may be attended either with a highly inflammatory state of the system, or with one low and exhausted.

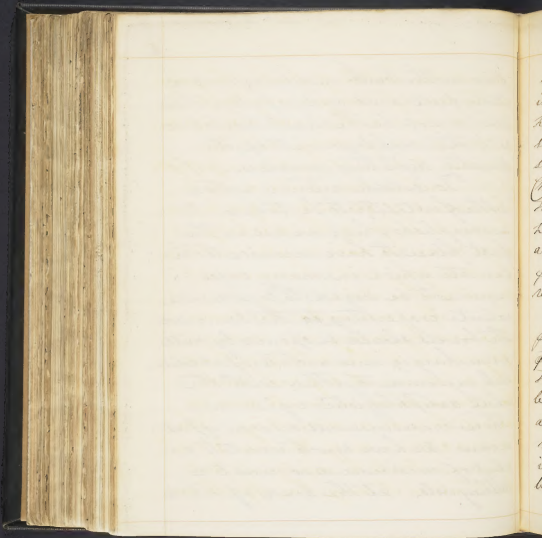
When it is accompanied with headache, giddiness, dyspnea,



pain in the back and loins, and a strong full and corded pulse, there should not be the least hesitation as to the employment of the directly depleting remedies.

To subdue arterial action is the first step to be taken - to accomplish which we are in the first place to have recourse to the lancet, which in many cases requires to be urged to <sup>a</sup> considerable extent. cooperating to the same end the bowels should be opened by mild saline purges, and a state of absolute rest enjoined together with the whole antiphlogistic regimen.

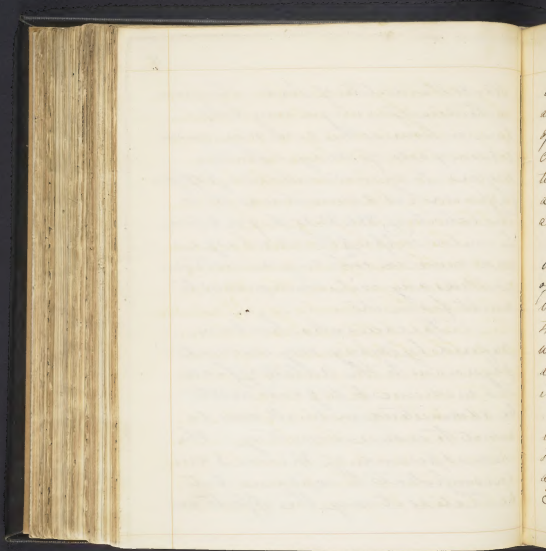
These medicines will seldom effect a cure, we have now to resort to a class of medicines denominated astringents, at the head of which





stands the acetate of lead. This given in the dose of  $\text{viii}$  grs. every half hour or hour as the case may require seldom fails of doing infinite services. In several instances Professor Chapman has administered it to the extent of  $\text{xxx}$ ,  $\text{xl}$  or  $\text{l}$  grs. before he could suppress the discharge and never in one single instance found any evil consequences to result from it.

Ipecacuanha has been preferred by many very eminent physicians to the acetate of lead. This medicine to do good must be administered in small doses so as not to induce vomiting. The *modus operandi* of Ipecac. I am incompetent to explain but be that as it may, the effects are



very salutary, and when we have an article of such value its mode of operation is merely a secondary consideration. The dose is one or two grains, combined with half a grain of Opium, and given as the case may require.

The Mineral acids have been used with success in some cases of Hemorrhage from the uterus but unless the discharge is moderate <sup>to</sup> they are of little avail. When used the Sulphuric is preferred, and is generally given very freely in the dose of  $\mathcal{R}$ L or L drops.

Van Helmont was the first who used alum in this disease, and this as far as is known was the first application of the medicine. This celebrated Physician remarks



7  
that it seldom fails to check the  
Hæmorrhage if taken freely. It is  
without doubt an efficacious medicine  
but of late years it has been  
supplanted by the more useful  
remedies, acetate of Lead and  
Pilocarnia. It is given either  
alone or in combination with  
Gum kino & catechu. The proper  
dose is ʒ. ss. or ʒjss each. it is also  
advantageously combined with  
Opium.

(Not a little has been  
said of the effects of Digitalis  
in the hæmorrhage, formerly  
it was recommended in the active  
stage in place of the lance &  
but venesection in cases where the  
discharge is copious, seems unavailing  
In the use of this article great

in  
he  
he  
  
n  
n  
i  
p  
h  
u  
es  
i  
p  
h  
p  
n  
n

care and circumspection is requisite  
it may be used after arterial action  
has been subdued if the discharge  
be not very copious

Opium— The  
Physicians of Europe use this  
medicine very freely in hemorrhages  
especially in those from the Uterus  
It is of undoubted efficacy in  
the disease, but should not be  
used unless in cases where it is  
connected with considerable pain  
irritation and spasm of the Uterus  
by which irregular motions the  
discharge is kept up and con-  
tinued, venesection should be  
permitted, as its effects are detri-  
mental where there is considerable  
activity of the circulation.

The foregoing

1  
3  
1  
a  
p  
p  
p  
in  
p  
p  
p  
a  
u  
u  
th  
7



are the principal remedies which acting through the medium of the general system are found to be of the greatest advantage in the management of Uterine Hemorrhage

In addition to these there are several topical applications from which infinite service is often derived. The most advantageous of which is unquestionably cold applied in various forms. It is a very common practice to apply cloths wrung out of cold water or vinegar to the pudendum or abdomen of the patient, also when the case is a very alarming one, it is not uncommon to introduce into the vagina a lump of ice, or when this is not at hand, a plug made of cloths wrung out of cold water.



But the most effectual plan of employing colds where there is profuse hemorrhage is by pouring water from a pailty considerable height on the abdomen in a small stream in very many instances this has been productive of very decided advantages

Effluvia or astringent liquors. Solutions of Alum, Acetate of Lead, White Vitriol &c. have been used, but the advantages resulting from them are not very prominent and are now nearly obsolete. In some instances we may look for great relief to be obtained from injecting large quantities of Laud. into the rectum, especially where there exists irritation and spasm of the uterus —



There is a kind of hemorrhage  
different from the one already  
noticed upon which I shall make  
a few remarks and close the subject.  
It is *Stillicidium* or a chronic  
discharge of blood from the uterus  
sometimes in very small quantities  
and at others profuse.

It seldom or never  
occurs in early life and is generally  
attended by weakness. It is a  
disease which is sometimes very  
difficult to remove.

We should in  
the treatment of this disease  
try the remedies already mentioned  
in active hemorrhage except the  
depleting plan, and if these  
should fail we should then resort  
to mercury which has been



sound nearly in every case in which  
<sup>it has been</sup> employed to remove the disease

It is a remedy which has  
 been introduced into practice by  
 Doct: Joseph Klappp within a  
 year or two past, which claims  
 some singnality in practice

He uses it to the extent of  
 a moderate ptyalism, and asserts  
 it is the most efficacious remedy  
 he has ever tried in the disease

Wm  
 Snig

